In the Claims:

Please amend the following claims:

1. (TWICE AMENDED) Compounds of inhibitors of the enzymatic activity of dipeptidyl peptidase IV (DP IV), which compounds have the general formula A-B-C, wherein

A is an amino acid,

B is a chemical bond between A and C or is an amino acid, and

C is an unstable inhibitor of DP IV wherein said unstable inhibitor is a dipeptide derivative having C-terminus with an active carbonyl group.

2. (TWICE AMENDED) Compounds according to claim 1, wherein B is selected from the group consisting of proline, hydroxyproline, thiazolidinecarboxylic acid, dehydroproline, pipecolic acid, azetidinecarboxylic acid and aziridinecarboxylic acid.

4. (TWICE AMENDED) Compounds according to claim 1 wherein said unstable inhibitor is a dipeptide derivative having an active carbonyl group at the C-terminus selected from the group consisting of Ile-Thia, Ile-Pyr, Val-Thia and Val-Pyr.

9. (TWICE AMENDED) A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition for the temporally controlled *in vivo* enzymatic inhibition of DP IV comprising providing a compound of the general formula A-B-C, wherein

A is an amino acid

B is a chemical bond between A and C or is an amino acid, and

C is an unstable inhibitor of DP IV said unstable inhibitor is a dipeptide derivative having a C-terminus with an active carbonyl group; and

preparing a pharmaceutical preparation containing said compound and customary pharmaceutical carriers or excipients

11. (TWICE AMENDED) A method of treating disorders in mammals that can be treated by modulating the DP IV enzymatic activity of a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a compound of the general formula A-B-C, wherein

A is an amino acid

B is a chemical bond between A and C or is an amino acid, and

C is an unstable inhibitor of DP IV said unstable inhibitor is a dipeptide derivative having a C-terminus with an active carbonyl group.

13. (TWICE AMENDED) The method of claim 11 wherein said compounds are used to treat impaired glucose tolerance, diabetes mellitus, diabetic neuropathy and nephropathy and sequelae of diabetes mellitus in mammals.

14. (AMENDED) A compound of claim 1 wherein said unstable inhibitors are selected from a group consisting of a dipeptidyl alkyl ketone derivative, with a fluoro alkyl ketone derivative being exempted from the dipeptidyl alkyl ketone derivatives, a dipeptidyl chloroalkyl ketone, dipeptidyl cyanide and dipeptidyl pyridinium methyl ketone radical

15. (ADDED). The method of claim 11 wherein said method of administration is oral.

REMARKS

I. Status of Claims.

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 13, 2002. Claims 1-14 are presently pending. Claim 15 has been added to further emphasize Applicants' invention. Claims 1, 2, 9, 11, 13 and 14 are amended in a manner that is believed to overcome rejections contained in the pending Office Action. No new matter or issues are believed to be introduced by these amendments. Support for the amendments is found throughout the specification and drawings.